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TO:	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
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	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
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(Security Classification)

(See inside cover)

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CONTROL NO. Z-15786/82

NPIC/IEG (7/82)

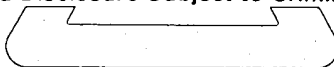
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**DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>NOFORN-</b>	<b>Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals</b>
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Attachment to Z-15786/82

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NPIC/IEG (7/82)

26 JULY 1982

**SHORT TAKE-OFF RAMP COMPLETED**  
**SAKI AIRFIELD, USSR**

1. (S/D) SIGNIFICANCE: COMPLETION OF THE SHORT TAKE-OFF RAMP SUGGESTS TESTING OF AN IMPROVED FORGER OR POSSIBLE NEW VERTICAL/SHORT TAKE-OFF AND LANDING (V/STOL) AIRCRAFT MAY BEGIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

2. (S/D) REMARKS: THE SHORT TAKE-OFF RAMP (SKI JUMP) AT SAKI AIRFIELD APPEARED TO BE STRUCTURALLY COMPLETE [REDACTED] 25X1  
END-SUPPORT FRAMES PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED [REDACTED] WERE IN 25X1  
PLACE. NO OTHER STRUCTURAL MEMBERS, CRANES, OR OTHER  
CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT WERE IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY. THE [REDACTED] 25X1

IT IS 1 KM NORTHEAST OF THE EXPERIMENTAL CATAPULT FACILITY AND WAS CONSTRUCTED OVER A SIMULATED SHIPBOARD STRUCTURE.

(S/D) ANALYST'S COMMENT -- COMPLETION OF THIS SKI JUMP SUGGESTS THAT IN THE NEAR FUTURE THE SOVIETS MAY BEGIN A TEST PROGRAM TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTS OF RAMP LAUNCHES ON AIRCRAFT PERFORMANCE. NO CANDIDATE AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED FOR THIS PROGRAM. THE CONFIGURATION OF THE FORGER WITH TWO LIFT AND ONE MAIN ENGINES (COMPARED TO THE ONE ENGINE WITH FOUR ROTATABLE NOZZLES OF THE HARRIER) MAKE IT AN UNLIKELY CANDIDATE FOR THIS PROGRAM. EITHER A HEAVILY MODIFIED FORGER OR A NEW V/STOL AIRCRAFT IS THE LIKELY CANDIDATE. [REDACTED] 25X1  
[REDACTED] 25X1

3. (S) [REDACTED] COORDINATES 45-05-35N 033-36-21E 25X1

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